

A. F. B. Newsletter

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**M.C. MIGEL LIBRARY  
AMERICAN PRINTING  
HOUSE FOR THE BLIND**



**American  
Foundation for the  
Blind  
Newsletter**



**editor  
Bernard Lacy**

**Vol. 1 No. 1  
January 1966**

## Why A Newsletter?

With this issue we are initiating the publication of something new to the American Foundation for the Blind—a quarterly Newsletter. Most of us probably receive a variety of such newsletters and the immediate question that will be asked is: why another one?

AFB is a national agency devoted to the promotion and development of higher standards of service for blind and deaf-blind persons in the United States. Because of the wide scope of Foundation activities and because the area served is nation-wide, it is impossible to keep everyone interested in work for blind people properly informed through the normal channels of communication.

This Newsletter, then, will attempt to tell you what is happening at the Foundation, to let you know about the latest research projects, technical developments in aids and appliances and recordings, current projects of our program specialists and regional representatives, and any other topics that we think you will find interesting and helpful.

Since this is our first issue, we are still in a period of experimentation. I personally would appreciate your reactions to the Newsletter and any suggestions you may have for future issues, especially concerning the desirability of a braille edition.

*M. Robert Barnett*

## Migel Medal Awards

Mary E. Switzer, commissioner of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, and Katharine Cornell, distinguished actress, were the 1965 recipients of the Migel Medal for Outstanding Service to the Blind. The awards were made to the two women at a ceremony held at Foundation headquarters on October 28.

The medal, named in honor of AFB's first president M. C. Migel, is awarded annually to two persons, one professionally active in work for the blind and the other a lay person. Richard H. Migel, the son of M. C. Migel and the vice president of AFB, chaired the ceremony, and AFB president Jansen Noyes, Jr., presented the awards.

Miss Switzer, in her capacity as VRA commissioner since 1950, has provided national and international leadership in the development of rehabilitative programs for all the handicapped. She helped draft the constitution of the World Health Organization, she played a major part in developing the Vocational Rehabilitation Act in 1954, and she continues to spearhead further legislative advances in rehabilitation. Among her many other awards have been the President's Certificate of Merit, HEW's Distinguished Service Award, and the Albert B. Lasker Award for international work for the crippled.

Miss Cornell, long a close personal friend of Helen Keller, has served blind people in numerous capacities. In 1955 she narrated the Academy Award winning documentary film *Helen Keller in Her Story*. She has been chairman of the National Committee of the Helen Keller World Crusade for the Blind since its founding in 1959, and has been a member of the board of both the American Foundation for the Blind and the American Foundation for Overseas Blind for many years. She has made numerous appearances on both radio and television in behalf of visually handicapped people in this country and abroad.



*AFB president Jansen Noyes, Jr., presents the Migel Medal to Katharine Cornell, center, and Mary E. Switzer, right.*



## M. R. Barnett Honored



*M. Robert Barnett, AFB executive director, was presented with the President's Award of the Greater Pittsburgh Guild for the Blind at its Second Annual Re-commendement in August. John F. Beggy, above left, Guild president, presented the award.*

## Aids For Blind Scouts

For the past year and a half AFB has explored methods of increasing the participation of visually handicapped children in scouting. Two new aids in this field will be a recorded version of the Boy Scout handbook and an audible directional compass.

The Boy Scout handbook will soon be recorded on tape in the AFB talking book studios. The tape will provide the basis for recordings on either disc or tape. Present plans indicate that the Library of Congress will initially release the manual on ten-inch discs to be played back at 16 2/3 r.p.m.

A new and improved model of the electronic compass developed by the Foundation's Manufacturing and Sales Department will be field tested in the near future. The compass, powered by a pen-light battery, emits an audible signal when pointing in any direction except north. It will enable a visually handicapped scout to orient himself under almost any condition.

These tangible services are a result of a series of conferences which have been held by representatives of scouting organizations, Campfire Girls, the AAIB Committee on Scouting and the Library of Congress. A further meeting concentrating upon development of guidance literature for youth leaders and greater extension of useful material to boys and girls, will occur at Louisville, Kentucky, early in 1966 with the cooperation of the American Printing House for the Blind.

## Projects To Aid Multiply-Handicapped Children

A survey questionnaire was mailed last month to all teachers and administrators known to have blind multiply-handicapped children of school age in residential, public and parochial schools. The survey is the first step in a broad effort by the Foundation to assist in developing programs for the multiply-handicapped child.

Plans for this project were laid in two meetings held at the Foundation last spring, the first with education specialists from AFB, AAIB, the U. S. Office of Education and the Council for Exceptional Children, and the second with specialists in the field of the blind.

The survey is designed to cover many aspects of the state of school-age multiply-handicapped children, including where they are, who is educating them, how much specialized education they are receiving, what the combinations of physical, mental and emotional disabilities are, and what the situation is relating to chronic conditions, modes of learning and mobility patterns.

The survey results will provide a basis for depth research into areas of special needs. It will also aid an ad hoc committee of experts in the area of education of mentally retarded children as well as a task force of teachers who will write curriculum guides for educable mentally retarded visually handicapped children.

## New Aids and Appliances

Three new items developed or adapted by the Foundation have received an enthusiastic initial reaction from purchasers. The items, which appeared for the first time in the current Aids and Appliances catalogue, are a servo-voltmeter, an electronic level and a torque wrench.

The AFB servo-voltmeter is a basic instrument for use by blind scientists and technicians to measure voltage, current and resistance, as well as pressure, length, temperature, etc. with simple adaptations. Raised marks on a circular scale provide for a tactual reading.

The adapted Stanley level, for use in carpentry, masonry, etc., is additionally equipped with mercury bubbles and electronics to provide an audible signal. When no signal is heard, an accurate reading has been obtained.

The adapted Sturtevant torque wrench imparts a strong impulse to the hand and sounds a distinct click when it reaches the proper torque. Raised dots signal every ten-pound increment.

Other items newly added to the catalogue include inexpensive wrist watches and an eight-day alarm clock with raised markings, expansion bands for watches, folding canes with an improved tip, and plastic script guides. Further information is available in the Aids and Appliances catalogue from the Sales Division of AFB.



## Compressed Speech System

### Originated by Bell Telephone Laboratories

### to be Developed by AFB

AFB will shortly undertake to develop equipment for a new system of electronic speech compression, originated by personnel of Bell Telephone Laboratories, which will double the speed of recorded speech without distortion. Bell Laboratories has given the designs for the system to the Foundation.

Recorded compressed speech would enable the visually handicapped person with a short period of training to listen to material at approximately the same rate as sighted persons read. Thus a sightless child would be able to be more competitive in assimilating educational texts, and a blind adult would be able to absorb more informational and factual material. In addition, economies would be effected by the increased amount of material on a single disc or length of tape.

The Harmonic Compressor, as the system is called, divides in half the frequency components (harmonics) in a voice recording while preserving the original time duration. By doubling the speed of this half-frequency recording, the frequency components are restored to their original values. The result is a normal-pitch, double-speed recording. If an ordinary record is simply played at twice normal speed, the original frequency components are doubled and the "Donald Duck" distortion occurs.

Although a sample of compressed speech was simulated by use of an IBM computer, no actual hardware has yet been built for experimental use. The Engineer-

ing Division of the AFB Manufacturing and Sales Department expects to construct such hardware with the consultative assistance of Bell Laboratories.

The Foundation has been experimenting for many years in cooperation with the Division for the Blind of the U. S. Library of Congress to increase the amount of material on records. For example, talking book records were originally produced by the Foundation before World War II to be played back at a speed of 33-1/3 revolutions per minute. Some years ago talking book machines and records were manufactured to be played back at a speed of 16-2/3 r.p.m., the speed now in general use. Current experiments are using a speed of 8-1/3 r.p.m. In addition, the number of minutes of playing time per record has been increased through other technical achievements.

The Engineering Division is also working on an economical variable speed device to be used in conjunction with disc or tape playback apparatus. A phonograph equipped with the device could be played at any speed ranging from 4 r.p.m. to 60 r.p.m. (The newest of the Library of Congress talking book machines play at three fixed speeds, 8-1/3, 16-2/3, and 33-1/3 r.p.m.) A reader could then increase the playback rate to any speed at which he still finds the sound intelligible.

Negotiations are now underway between the Library of Congress and AFB to establish a Compressed Speech Center with the principal objective of assisting visually handicapped students to obtain textbooks recorded at the maximum speed which can be generally understood.

## Research Studies Completed

The intensive research study of blinded veterans has been completed, and the final compilation of data and analysis is now being prepared for publication.

In this study conducted by AFB and the Veterans Administration with the technical assistance of the Blinded Veterans Association, 850 blinded veterans—a group who have received extensive training, equipment and financial support—were given a four- to six-hour medical, psycho-social examination in eleven VA clinics. A similar study conducted by the VA in 1952 was primarily concerned with the needs of the group and the types of assistance required. The current study will be of great value in measuring the results of such assistance.

The interviewing and compilation of data has also been completed for a study by AFB and the National Institute for Neurological Diseases and Blindness to explore the accuracy and usefulness of registers of blind people kept by states. Information regarding the reporting of blind persons to state registers was gathered from 527 ophthalmologists, 230 optometrists, and directors of 29 state agencies and their consulting ophthalmologists. The material has been sent to NINDB, which will make the final tabulation and analysis.



*Dr. M. R. Schroeder, left, and Dr. R. M. Golden, center, of Bell Telephone Laboratories discuss the harmonic compressor with AFB executive director M. Robert Barnett.*



## Telephone Aid For Deaf-Blind Persons

A new aid developed at San Fernando Valley State College for use by deaf persons has been adapted for use by the deaf-blind and will be field tested by the Foundation during the coming year.

The instrument, called the Tactile Speech Indicator by the developers, translates the sound of speech on the telephone into a tactual signal. (A visual signal was used in the original model for deaf people.)

The new aid has several advantages over previous instruments proposed for use by deaf and deaf-blind people. It is battery operated, completely portable, and can be used with any ordinary telephone. In addition, it can translate an audible signal from calls made at almost any distance.

In using the aid, a deaf-blind person with speech puts one section against the earpiece of the telephone headset. A dial tone, busy signal or ringing can be recognized by touch. He can then ask the person to whom he is talking to answer his questions by saying "no" once or "yes" twice. These answers can then be felt on the indicator as one impulse or two impulses.

The original model was developed by the San Fernando Valley State College Leadership Training in the Area of the Deaf, with a grant from the U.S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and the consultation of the local telephone company. Through the assistance of Dr. Ray L. Jones, project director, and Hugh L. Moore, technical head, a prototype model adapted for the deaf-blind was built and tested. This initial test elicited enough favorable reaction to indicate the value of a long-term field trial. The Foundation is now having a number of the instruments made and will test them with deaf-blind persons during 1966.

## Career Days In Arkansas And Ohio

AFB and the Guidance Workshop of the American Association of Instructors for the Blind are jointly sponsoring Regional Career Days in Arkansas and Ohio in cooperation with the Arkansas School for the Blind and the Ohio State School for the Blind.

The Regional Career Days will be held at the Arkansas School in Little Rock February 18-20 for residents of Arkansas and surrounding states, and the Ohio State School in Columbus April 1-3 for residents of Ohio and surrounding states. Co-sponsors of the Days in Arkansas are the Division of Services for the Blind of the State of Arkansas and the Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind, and in Ohio, the Ohio State Division of Services for the Blind.

The Regional Career Days are open to blind high school students of both public and residential schools and their parents. Three general sessions will be held at which outstanding speakers will address the total group. Discussion groups will first be broken down into

six major areas: professional, semi-skilled and unskilled, sales and managerial, service, skilled and technical, and clerical. After discussions of these broad areas, the groups will be divided into smaller sections for consideration of specific occupations. The discussions will be led by national authorities in the particular fields.

Arthur Voorhees, AFB vocational specialist, and Robert McQuie, chairman of the AAIB Guidance Workshop, will be coordinators of the Regional Career Days.

Registration has already closed for the sessions in Arkansas, but applications for Ohio will be accepted on a first come first served basis until March 1. Inquiries should be addressed to the Superintendent, Ohio State School for the Blind, 5220 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43214.

## Zale Jewelry Company Receives Certificate Of Merit



An AFB Certificate of Merit was presented to the Zale Jewelry Company at its 1965 annual stockholders meeting for its philanthropic efforts on behalf of blind children and adults. In presenting the award, AFB Director of Information Daniel O'Connor, above left, paid tribute to the company for supplying braille watches free for teaching purposes to every residential school for the blind in the U.S., to outstanding graduating students of residential schools in recognition of their scholarship and demonstrated abilities in extracurricular activities, and to needy blind persons in the U.S. and throughout the world; and for making braille watches available in large supply at low cost to blind persons who can afford to purchase them. Morris B. Zale, center, chairman of Zale Jewelry Company, and Ben A. Lipshy, president, right, received the certificate.



## Reassignment of Regional Consultants

AFB regional consultants, the prime link between the Foundation and the field, have been reassigned to new areas as the first step in a long-term program designed to improve reciprocal channels of cooperation between state and local agencies and the Foundation.

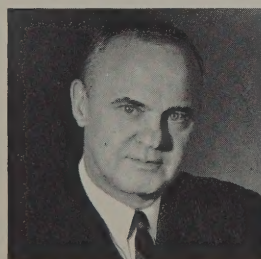
Future steps in a decentralization program are now being studied, including the feasibility of establishing AFB regional offices with permanent staff members who would be more accessible to all agencies. Consideration is also being given to the creation of local planning and advisory bodies of professional people to assist AFB in meeting regional needs.

The regional consultants, who are part of the Community Services Division of the Program Planning Department, are specialists in the field of community planning. They assist local and state agencies to understand and use the resources of AFB as a national agency.



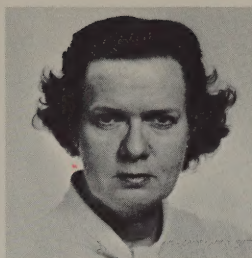
**DORIS SAUSSER**, as director of the Community Services Division, supervises the regional consultants. Mrs. Sausser, who formerly was the Foundation's representative in the Southeastern region, has been associated with AFB since 1958. She had served previously as assistant director of agency operations for the Community Chest of Philadelphia and as regional consultant for National Traveler's Aid Association. She received a presidential citation for her work on behalf of President Harry S. Truman's Committee for Welfare and Morale.

**BENJAMIN WOLF**, formerly the regional consultant to the Middle Atlantic area, will now serve Region 1, the Northeastern area including Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. Mr. Wolf joined the Foundation in 1961, after serving as executive director of the Jewish Community Councils in Springfield, Massachusetts, and Richmond, Virginia.



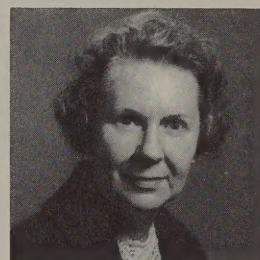
**CHARLES E. BROWN**, former West Coast representative, will serve Region 3, the Midwest area including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. Mr. Brown came to the Foundation in 1957 from the National Traveler's

Aid Association. Previously, he had directed the Family Society of Saginaw, Michigan.



**ELLA S. DOWNING**, who joined the AFB staff in January, 1965, will continue as representative to Region 4, the Southeastern area including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Miss Downing was director of the U.S.O. Mobile Information Service attached to the U.S. Seventh Fleet in Japan, following an extensive period as director of the U.S.O. Traveler's Aid Service in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**MARION V. WURSTER** will move from the Northeastern area to Region 5, the West Central area including Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wyoming. Miss Wurster served on the faculty of the School of Social Work, University of Iowa, and as program consultant on the staff of the Illinois Department of Mental Health before joining the Foundation in 1962.



AFB is currently recruiting for new regional consultants to Region 2, the Middle Atlantic area including Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, and Region 6, the West Coast area including Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Guam.

## Salary Survey Sponsored by AFB and VRA

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics is currently conducting a survey, jointly sponsored by AFB and the U. S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, to secure salary data and other information about professional and administrative personnel who are engaged in services for the blind.

The Bureau will prepare a summary statistical report of the information received from questionnaires currently being mailed to agencies. All material is confidential and the report will not identify any organization. Neither the Foundation nor VRA will have access to the confidential data.

The current study, similar to surveys conducted in 1955 and 1961, will provide a basis for assessment of salary trends over the past decade as well as guidelines for future efforts in recruiting and retaining qualified persons in the field. Early in 1967 AFB will publish interpretative documents based on the findings for assistance to executives, governing boards and legislatures in assessing local salary plans and in planning future programs.



## 1966 Summer Course Stipends

AFB will continue in 1966 to make available stipends of \$200 each to qualified educators who enroll in certain summer courses and workshops. Applicants must be administrators, supervisors, or teachers employed full-time in programs for visually handicapped students during the 1966-67 academic year. Consideration will be given to educators attending any well-planned sequence of courses which will strengthen skills for work with visually handicapped children.

Further information and an application form may be obtained from the Personnel and Training Service, American Foundation for the Blind, 15 West 16th Street, New York, New York 10011.

## New Members of Board of Trustees

At the annual meeting of members of AFB on October 28, 1965, J. Kenneth Cozier, Frederick G. Storey, Nathan A. Turkheimer and Dr. Norman M. Yoder were elected to the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

J. Kenneth Cozier, president of the Cozier Container Corporation, is president of the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Society for the Blind, a member of the Ohio Commission for the Blind, a member of the board of the Health Council of the Cleveland Welfare Federation, and a member of the board of the Youth Service Bureau. Mr. Cozier is also serving as a member of the Commission on Standards and Accreditation for agencies serving the blind.

Frederick G. Storey, president of Storey Theatres, is vice president of Community Services for the Blind in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Storey is past president of the national board of the Family Service Association of America, past president of Rotary and past president of the Georgia Tech National Alumni Association. He is also a member of the Commission on Standards and Accreditation.

Nathan A. Turkheimer is a vice president and director of public relations at J. M. Mathes, Inc., New York advertising agency. Mr. Turkheimer, a member of the Public Relations Society of America, was previously associated with the public relations firm of Hill & Knowlton, and as a reporter and writer with the New York World Telegram & Sun, the New York Times and the Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch.

It is an established custom that the presidents of AAWB and AAIB be members of the Foundation's board. Dr. Norman M. Yoder, commissioner of the Office of the Blind of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is the newly-elected AAWB president and replaced ex-president Douglas C. MacFarland on the board. Lee A. Iverson, chief of the Division of Children's Schools, State of Illinois, continues to represent AAIB as president of that organization.

## Personnel



FERNE K. ROOT, who joined AFB as a specialist in education in March, 1965, has been appointed director of the Program Development Division in the Program Planning Department. In this capacity she will direct and coordinate the activities of the Founda-

tion's specialists in the areas of educational, rehabilitation, and social welfare programs for visually handicapped and deaf-blind children and adults.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Mrs. Root served on the staff of the New York State Education Department as associate in education of the visually handicapped, providing consultation to public day schools and to residential schools. For seven years before this she was employed at Syracuse University as administrator of the Center for the Development of Blind Children and as director of the Summer Teacher Training Program.

Mrs. Root, who received the degree of Bachelor of Science at Iowa State University and the Master of Arts at Syracuse University, is a member of the board of directors of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind and chairs the Association's Committee on Research. She is affiliated with the Council for Exceptional Children and is a consultant for the U.S. Office of Education.

HOWARD M. LIECHTY, managing editor of the New Outlook since 1951, is retiring from that position effective January 1. Mr. Liechty, one of the best known personalities in the field of service to blind persons, has earned the unreserved respect of all for his attention to high standards of both content and production. Mr. Liechty, also editor of the Matilda Ziegler Magazine since 1939, will continue to manage that publication.



MRS. PATRICIA SCHERF SMITH has been appointed acting director of the Publications Division of the Information Department and as managing editor of the New Outlook. Mrs. Smith came to AFB from a public relations and editorial position with the American Academy of Pediatrics. She was previously associated with the American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association. She is a graduate of Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa.



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## Foundation Supports Legislation to Expand Books for the Blind Program

AFB expressed its support of the legislation to expand and improve the Books for the Blind Program through the testimony of its Washington representative Irvin P. Schloss on March 29 before a Subcommittee of the Committee on House Administration of the U. S. House of Representatives.

The bills under consideration extend the service to individuals who are unable to read or use conventional printed material upon certification by competent medical authority. In addition, the legislation will authorize the Librarian of Congress to contract with public and other nonprofit libraries and organizations to assist in financing the administrative costs of distributing books and record players.

If the bill becomes law, it is expected that individuals with severe visual impairment who are not within the definition of blindness but who cannot read ordinary print will begin to receive talking book service. Individuals who are unable to handle conventional books because of severe orthopedic or neurological disabilities will also be able to receive recorded book service.

In addition to representing the Foundation, Mr. Schloss also indicated the support of the AAWB, AAIB, and the Blind Veterans Association.

## New Series of Radio Programs

### Produced by AFB

A new series of twelve radio programs has been produced by the AFB Information Department and released for broadcast throughout the country.

The series, called *The Turning Point*, consists of conversations with people of various backgrounds and occupations who have become blind. The interviews, conducted by AFB information specialist Jo Anne Murphy, explore individual reactions and problems caused by blindness and steps taken towards readjustment.

The persons interviewed are:

Program 1:

Charles Boswell, Birmingham, Alabama  
*Insurance man and blind golf champion*

Program 2:

Loyal Apple, Maywood, Illinois  
*Chief, Blind Rehabilitation Section,  
Veterans Administration Hospital, Hines, Illinois*

Program 3:

Hon. Burton Kolman, Chicago, Illinois  
*Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois*

Program 4

William R. Duggan, Washington, D. C.  
*Member, Policy Planning Council,  
U. S. Department of State*

Program 5:

Virginia Volland, New York, N. Y.  
*Author (former costume designer)*

Program 6:

Frederick Nickl, Chicago, Illinois  
*Photographic Laboratory Technician*  
William F. Gallagher, New York, N. Y.  
*Manager, Rehabilitation and Vocational Services,  
New York Association for the Blind*

Program 7:

Martin Jean, Glenview, Illinois  
*Computer Programmer*

Program 8:

Dr. Norman M. Yoder, Camphill, Pennsylvania  
*Commissioner, Office for the Blind, Pennsylvania  
Department of Public Welfare, and President,  
American Association of Workers for the Blind*  
Harry Hunter, Dearborn Heights, Michigan  
*Sub-assembler, and President, Associated Blind  
Activities*

Program 9:

Mrs. Tomi Keitlin, New York, N. Y.  
*Executive Vice President, Institute of Physical  
Fitness*

Program 10:

Louis Launius, Chicago, Illinois  
*Linotype machinist*

Program 11:

Stanley Oliver, Detroit, Michigan  
*Piano Technician*  
Moe Bartnofsky, Forest Hills, New York  
*Securities Account Executive, Meller & Company*

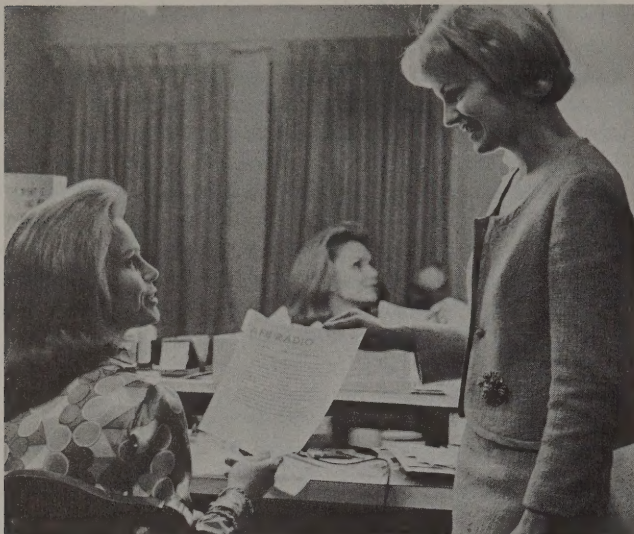
Program 12:

Marlene Neruda, Westchester, Illinois  
*Home teacher for the blind*  
Parke Howard, Chicago, Illinois  
*Distributor, Skillcraft Quality Blind-Made  
Products*

The programs were introduced to the broadcasting industry at the National Association of Broadcasters convention in Chicago in late March, and are expected to appear on local stations within the near future.



## Actress Aids Education Campaign



Miss Lee Remick, left, the well-known Hollywood and Broadway actress, has recorded several radio spot announcements for the AFB public service campaign. AFB information specialist Jo Anne Murphy taped the announcements in Miss Remick's dressing room before a performance of *WAIT UNTIL DARK*, a current Broadway hit. Miss Remick portrays a blind girl in the play.

## Institute To Consider Employment Of Blind People In Hospitals

AFB will hold a national institute in New York in May for selected hospital administrators and personnel directors, rehabilitation specialists, and blind hospital employees to study in depth the employment of blind persons in semi-skilled and unskilled jobs in hospitals. The institute is being conducted by AFB under a contract from the U. S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, with the cooperation of the American Hospital Association.

The nation-wide shortage of hospital personnel in semi-skilled and unskilled jobs which can be performed by blind and partially sighted people prompted the setting up of such an institute. AFB hopes to acquaint hospital personnel with a source of needed manpower, and at the same time inform rehabilitation personnel of the jobs available. At the institute guidelines will be developed for the selection, training and placement of blind persons in such hospital areas as the kitchen, laundry, X-ray department, and laboratories.

The conference will cover three days May 9-11. The first day will be devoted to a broad consideration of the overall needs of hospitals and semi-skilled and unskilled labor, as well as methods and techniques which may be employed by rehabilitation workers in meeting these needs. Among those scheduled to speak are Dr.

Douglas MacFarland, chief, Services for the Blind, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration; Edward Weimer, assistant administrator, Manpower for Health, American Hospital Association, and Leon Lewis, chief, Branch of Occupational Analysis, U. S. Employment Service.

On the second day the participants will be divided into small committees pertaining to their special fields. These committees will draft specific proposals concerning the type of blind person to be selected for various hospital positions, the training required to prepare the blind person for the job, and actual placement in a hospital.

The committees will report their recommendations to the entire group on the third day for discussion and revision. After the conference these proposals will be edited and published by AFB for distribution to rehabilitation and hospital personnel.

## IBM Supports Project For Multiply Handicapped Youth

International Business Machines Corporation has made a grant of \$12,000 to AFB to help support the writing and publication of curriculum guides for multiply handicapped youth. The guides will be designed for use in day schools and residential schools for teaching the educable older adolescent visually handicapped students who are mentally retarded.

The curriculum guides are part of the broad effort by the Foundation to develop programs for the multiply-handicapped child which was described in the last issue of the *Newsletter*.

An ad hoc committee of experts in the area of education of mentally retarded children met in January to assist in the preparation of the guides. The committee includes:

- Dr. Wayne Sengstock, *Education Consultant*  
National Association for Retarded Children
- Dr. George Brabner, Jr., *Assoc. Prof. of Education*  
Ferkauf Graduate School of Education, Yeshiva Univ.
- Chester Loomis, *Supervisor*  
Dept. of Special Education, Detroit Public Schools
- Dr. James D. Beaber, *Director*  
Dept. of Exceptional Children, University of Virginia
- Dr. Richard W. Woodcock, *Associate Professor*  
George Peabody College for Teachers
- Dr. Geraldine T. Scholl, *Chairman*  
Dept. of Special Education, University of Michigan

Following the recommendations of this committee and of specialists in the fields of education of the blind who met last year at the Foundation, a task force of writers will be assembled in July for the actual preparation of the curriculum guides. The writers will include specialists in industrial arts, physical education and recreation, orientation and mobility, communications, and home economics.



## International Research Information Service

From time to time the *Newsletter* will discuss various aspects of AFB programs to explain more fully what the Foundation is doing, why it is being done, and what some of the results have been. A program comparatively new to the Foundation is the International Research Information Service, familiarly known by its acronym IRIS. Below is a summary of some of the activities of IRIS during the two and a half years since its creation.

### History and development

In June, 1962, AFB cosponsored an International Congress on Technology and Blindness during which scientists, technicians, and administrators from the U.S. and twelve other countries discussed basic sensory research and its application to mechanical and electronic aids for blind people. On the last day of the conference an appeal was made to continue the exchange of information through some central office. A similar appeal was made at the 1962 Hanover, Germany, meeting of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, and again at the 1963 Paris meeting of the Technical Subcommittee of the WCWB.

AFB — in cooperation with agencies in other countries — established such a central office in its Research Department in October, 1963, for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of research information not only in the technological field, but also in the areas of behavioral science and the statistics of blindness. A cooperative agreement was made with the Royal National Institute for the Blind in London for that agency to undertake the primary responsibility for the collection of actual hardware developed to aid the visually impaired and the deaf-blind. A two-year grant made by the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration helped support the service during the formative years.

### Publications and Conferences

The publication of essential research material constitutes an important aspect of the IRIS program. Articles, reports, and bibliographies are solicited from researchers for publication, and IRIS staff members examine such sources as journals, annals and theses, for papers to be reprinted. These latter sources are usually not easily obtainable, are out of print, or are of such a specialized nature that the researcher would not normally see them. IRIS also generates projects and reports through visits to document centers, research centers and universities.

Eleven *Research Bulletins* were issued by January 1, 1966, as well as such special publications as state-of-the-art reports, bibliographies, and individual mailings.

National and international conferences — under the sponsorship or with the participation of IRIS — are another important means for the exchange of information. IRIS has published the proceedings of three such conferences: The Symposium on Research in Blindness and Severe Visual Impairment in New York City in October, 1963; the Mobility Research Conference in Rotterdam in August, 1964, and the Regional Conference on Research Related to Blind and Severely

Visually Impaired Children in San Francisco in March, 1965.

The majority of the material published to date — approximately 75 percent — has originated in the United States, since this country is the source of most research in this field; however, papers have been published from sources in the United Kingdom, France, U.S.S.R., Canada, Poland, Netherlands, Austria and Lebanon.

### Recipients of IRIS Material

The publications are regularly sent to approximately 400 persons around the world. Sixty-six percent of these are leading research and academic personnel interested in the problems of sensory research with a special emphasis on visual impairment. Twenty-six percent of the recipients are engaged in services to the visually handicapped; five percent are libraries in schools and research centers, and three percent are in such other areas as national foundations and agencies in other countries.

Twenty-four countries in Europe, North America, South America, Africa, the Middle East, the Far East and Oceania are represented in the list in addition to the U. S. and Puerto Rico. The fact that 80 percent of the recipients are in the U. S., 15 percent in Europe and five percent in other countries is probably a reflection of the approximate distribution of the overall research in this field.

### Future Plans

The comprehensive publications plan for IRIS includes the issuing during 1966 of four *Research Bulletins*, the Proceedings of the Conference of Social Science and Blindness, as well as state-of-the-art reports, bibliographies and special mailings. The IRIS venture has also resulted in the physical gathering of hundreds of research documents which are being properly classified and kept in a retrievable manner. IRIS is being assisted in the future refinement and extension of these indispensable facets by the AFB Information Department through its publications division and its Migel Memorial Library.

A series of national and international conferences is scheduled, and Dr. Milton D. Graham, director of the AFB Research Department, and Leslie L. Clark, IRIS director, will participate in European meetings this summer. Since its activities provide an overview of research as it is going on, IRIS will continue to stimulate areas of needed new research as it affects all sensory impairment.



## New Publication On the Posture of Blind Persons

*Posture in the Blind*, by Irwin M. Siegel, M.D., F.A.C.S., a Chicago orthopaedic surgeon, is being published by the Foundation at the end of April.

The monograph, Number 15 in the AFB Research Series, is priced at \$1.

The 48-page monograph details procedures for improving the posture of blind persons. It is based on Dr. Siegel's experience at the Illinois Visually Handicapped Institute, where he is Consultant in Orthopaedic Surgery.

## Tests Conducted On Compressed Speech and Audible Compass

The AFB Manufacturing and Sales Department has produced a number of recordings on which the speed of speech is increased by electro-mechanical means. These recordings are now being field tested by the Division for the Blind, Library of Congress, to determine the maximum speeds which can be generally understood with this method of speech compression. Construction has also begun on components of the harmonic speech compressor, described in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, to determine its practical application. This system, originated by personnel of Bell Telephone Laboratories, is designed to double the speed of recorded speech without distortion.

The electronic directional compass, developed by the Foundation primarily for use by visually handicapped scouts, is also being tested. Models of the compass, which emits an audible signal when pointing in any direction except north, have been sent to scout leaders for trial use in the field.

## New Film On Employment for Blind Persons

The Foundation is currently engaged in the production of a 16mm 30-minute color film on employment opportunities for blind persons. The film will depict a wide variety of activities in which blind persons are now engaged, including computer programming, school teaching, hospital employment, telephone switchboard operation, assembly line work and secretarial duties.

The purpose of the film is twofold: to acquaint potential employers, blind persons, professionals in work for the blind, and the general public with the wide range of successful employment activity existing today, and to kindle people's imagination to enlarge that range. After the completion of the film, scheduled for the early part of the summer of 1966, it will be distributed for showing to agency staff, hospital and school administrators, business and industrial executives, and the general public. It will be available for non-commercial television showings.

## Program of Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind Reviewed by AFB Team

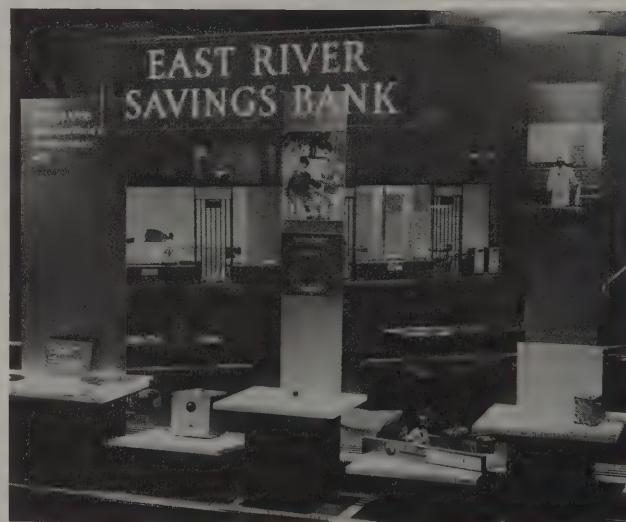
A team of three members of the AFB staff has reviewed the program of the Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind at the request of Roy Kumpe, executive director. Mr. Kumpe described the program review as an opportunity for the agency to get "an objective, outside look at what we are doing here at the Center from top experts in our field."

The AFB review team consisted of Mrs. Doris Sausser, director of the community services division; Miss Ella Downing, regional consultant for the Southeast, and J. Albert Asenjo, specialist in rehabilitation. During their visit to Little Rock, they interviewed personnel and studied the program, staffing, financing and administration.

The report was submitted to the board of directors of the Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind at the beginning of April, and Miss Downing and Mr. Asenjo are meeting with the board to discuss the recommendations. The AFB staff will be available to help implement these recommendations.

The Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind, one of the pioneers in the field of promotion and operation of rehabilitation centers for the adult blind, plans to reorganize its program to meet the standards proposed by the Commission on Standards and Accreditation. The program review was the first step taken towards this goal.

## Display in Rockefeller Center



From January 14 to February 14 the windows of a Rockefeller Center bank contained displays describing services for blind people. The many New Yorkers and tourists who pass through this area daily saw such exhibits as the one above, which explained the development of new aids and appliances. The windows were sponsored by the East River Savings Bank, AFB and the American Foundation for Overseas Blind.



## **New Facilities Dedicated At Florida Rehabilitation Center**

The new enlarged facilities of the Daytona Beach Rehabilitation Center of the Florida Council for the Blind were dedicated on February 11. E. William Crotty, chairman of the Florida Council, presided at the dedication, and Florida Governor Haydon Burns delivered the principal address.

The Council is offering a completely reorganized, greatly expanded program — instituted with the assistance of AFB — in the new buildings. At the request of Murdock Martin, executive director of the Florida Council, and E. J. Manderfield, director of rehabilitation, the AFB program specialist in rehabilitation J. Albert Asenjo made a complete study of the center's program last summer. On the basis of this study Mr. Asenjo prepared a report outlining a recommended program for the new facilities. The recommendations were designed to meet the standards proposed by the rehabilitation committee of the Commission on Standards and Accreditation.

In October of last year, Mr. Asenjo conducted a two-week in-service training program to match the staff to the reorganized program and to prepare new personnel added to provide the expanded services.

The Daytona Beach Center reflects a general trend throughout the country towards more adequate facilities and modernized programs for improved services to blind people. The new structure replaces World War II military buildings that had been used since 1951. Carl McCoy, for many years the supervisor of the state rehabilitation center in Topeka, Kansas, has been appointed director of the center.



*An aerial view of the new facilities of the Daytona Beach Rehabilitation Center of the Florida Council for the Blind.*

## **Joint Programs Discussed At Meeting With AAIB**

A meeting between representatives of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind and AFB — an annual occurrence for some years — was held in Washington, D. C., on January 26. The meeting was held to consider possible programs to be undertaken jointly during the coming year.

Stewart Armstrong, first vice-president of AAIB; William English, second vice-president, and executive secretary R. Paul Thompson represented AAIB at the meeting. AFB was represented by executive director M. Robert Barnett; Harold Roberts, director of the Program Planning Department, and Mrs. Ferne K. Root, director of program development. Mrs. Root is also a member of the AAIB board of directors.

Various workshops, institutes and clinics were proposed and are now being considered for joint execution. Examples of past cooperative sponsorship include the Regional Career Days recently held under the auspices of AAIB and AFB in Arkansas and Ohio.

## **Institute On Administrative Practices for West Coast Agencies**

The Foundation's fourth Institute on Administrative Practices for Agencies Serving the Blind is being held April 20-22 in San Francisco. The institute was set up at the request of local agencies in the West Coast region, and is being attended by board presidents and executives of both voluntary and governmental agencies. Previously AFB has sponsored similar institutes in the Northeast, Midwest and Southeast.

Plans for the West Coast meeting were prepared by a committee comprised of Dwight Toedter, executive director, Sacramento Society for the Blind; James Moxom, executive director, Nursery School for Visually Handicapped Children, Los Angeles; Edward Sorrells, supervisor, California Services for the Blind; Frank Kells, executive director, Phoenix Center for the Blind, and Charles E. Brown,\* executive director, Seattle Community Services for the Blind.

The committee has selected the topic of "Coordinating Roles and Goals . . . Our Joint Community Responsibility" as the major focus. Sessions include both lectures and small discussion groups, with ample opportunity to consider such vital areas as program planning, personnel practices, development of agency goals, board-staff relationship, public relations and the responsibilities for integrating community planning.

Miss Gertrude Wilson, retired professor of social welfare, School of Social Welfare, University of California, is serving as leader of the institute. Miss Wilson, who is a social work consultant to the Public Welfare Department of the City and County of San Francisco, is known for her dynamic leadership in similar institutes.

\* Mr. Brown, a regional representative for AFB for 8 years, accepted the Seattle position on March 1.



## Personnel



ROBERT L. ROBINSON has been appointed to the position of research associate in the AFB Research Department. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Robinson was research director of the Blinded Veterans Research Project cooperatively sponsored by AFB and the

Veterans Administration.

A graduate of Rollins College, Mr. Robinson received a master of social work degree from Tulane University. He was a senior case worker with the Family Service Agency of Charleston, South Carolina, and a field representative with the Blinded Veterans Association. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Academy of Certified Social Workers.

Mr. Robinson served with the United States Army during World War II and was blinded in combat in France in 1944.

## News Briefs

- The Office of the Blind, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, and AFB cooperated in a study of the Cambria County Branch, Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, and have submitted recommendations for a reorganization of the agency's programs. Frank DeWeese, executive director of the Cambria County agency, asked the two groups to analyze the programs prior to the construction of new facilities and an expansion of services and staff. Leon Feldman, director of rehabilitation services of the Pennsylvania Office of the Blind, worked cooperatively with AFB staff in drawing up recommendations designed to help more blind people in the Cambria County area achieve self-sufficiency.

- The April issue of *The New Outlook for the Blind*, published by the Foundation, is dedicated to Anne Sullivan Macy in commemoration of the centennial of her birth. In addition to articles on Mrs. Macy and her teaching techniques, the issue contains papers by six specialists in the field of services to the deaf-blind which cover such vital aspects as education of the deaf-blind child, rehabilitation of the deaf-blind adult, the interaction between professional workers and deaf-blind clients, and the status of the deaf-blind in the world today.

- M. Robert Barnett, executive director of both AFB and its sister organization the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, will make a study and consultative tour of seven South American countries during May. He will represent AFOB at an international congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina, May 8-16 on the production and distribution of braille and recorded literature and texts throughout Latin America.

- The Council for Exceptional Children is holding its annual convention in Toronto, Canada, April 17-24. Arthur Voorhees, AFB specialist in rehabilitation, is chairman of the section on prevocational counseling and guidance. Miss Pauline Moor, AFB specialist in education, preschool services, is participating in a panel on the multiply handicapped child with severe vision problems.

- A team of three specialists from the Foundation will provide a week of intensive consultation in May to the Division of Services for the Handicapped in the Department of Public Welfare of Puerto Rico. The team is going to Puerto Rico at the request of Mrs. Aida Pagàn, director of the Department of Public Welfare.

Mrs. Doris Sausser, director of community services; Mrs. Ferne Root, director of program development, and Miss Ella Downing, southeastern regional consultant will assess and analyze current services given by the Department of Public Welfare for blind people in Puerto Rico. Following their study they will submit recommendations for the improvement of those services.

- The Texas State Commission for the Blind held a three-day seminar of all staff members from throughout the state in Dallas, April 4-6. Miss Marion Wurster, AFB regional consultant, spoke at the conference on the effective use of the home teacher service in the rehabilitation process.

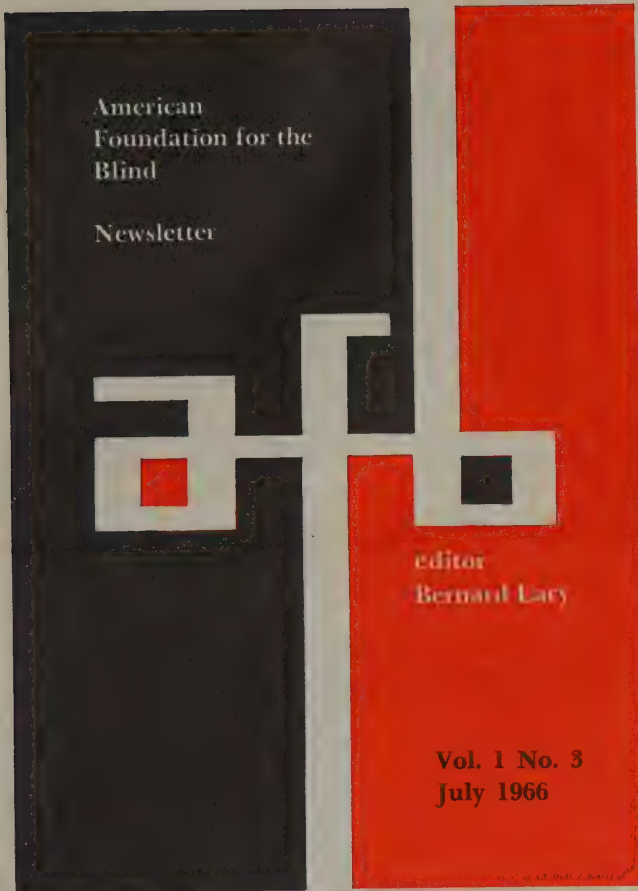
During the past year the Texas Commission, under a new executive director, Burt Risley, has enlarged and reorganized its programs of service and increased the number of staff members. Mrs. Doris Sausser, director of AFB community services, and Miss Pauline Moor, education specialist, aided in the expansion last year through consultation in planning services and training of preschool counselors respectively.

- On June 27 Helen Keller will celebrate her 86th birthday. AFB is marking the occasion with a special series of radio and television tributes distributed to stations throughout the country. Katharine Cornell, the famous actress who is a close personal friend of Miss Keller, is heard on both the radio transcription and the television film. The state governors are being asked to proclaim June 27 as Helen Keller Day.

## Editor's Note

We would like to thank everyone who has written to us concerning the *Newsletter*. We appreciate your comments and suggestions and are gratified by the favorable reception which the *Newsletter* received. The reactions were so numerous and varied that it will be some time before a consensus of opinion can be determined, but we do hope to incorporate some of the suggestions in future issues.





## Field Trial of Telephone Aid For Deaf-Blind Persons

AFB is currently conducting a field trial of a communications device for deaf-blind persons which translates the sound of speech on a telephone into a tactual signal. A selected group of deaf-blind persons throughout the country are testing the device, and initial reactions from the users have been enthusiastic.

The instrument, originally described in the January *Newsletter*, was developed by the San Fernando Valley College Leadership Training in the Area of the Deaf for use by deaf persons and was adapted for the Foundation for use by the deaf-blind. (A visual signal was used in the original model for deaf people.)

A deaf-blind person with speech attaches a suction cup to the earpiece of any ordinary telephone. By touch he can recognize a dial tone, busy signal or ringing. He can then ask the person to whom he is talking to answer his questions by saying "no" once, "yes" twice or "please repeat." These answers are felt on the indicator as one, two or three impulses.

The new aid has several advantages over previous instruments proposed for use by deaf and deaf-blind people. The device is battery operated, completely portable, and can translate an audible signal from calls made at almost any distance.

## Talking Book Recorded At Speed of 4-1/6 RPM

A complete book of short stories, *O. Henry Prize Stories of 1965*, has been recorded by AFB on a single, 12-inch disc containing more than ten hours of reading time. The experimental record is made to be played back at the slow speed of 4 1/6 revolutions per minute.

The record was produced by the engineering staff of the AFB Manufacturing and Sales Department as part of a continuing effort by the Foundation and the Division for the Blind of the Library of Congress to achieve slower recording and playback speeds with a corresponding increase in the amount of reading material on a single disc. The increase in the amount of material per record will provide greater convenience for a blind person using talking books as well as economies in the production of records.

Foundation officers emphasized that the 4 1/6 rpm records are still in an experimental stage and are not yet available to talking book readers. Further study is being done, especially in the perfecting of existing or future talking book machines to play at this speed.

When talking books were first produced by the Foundation in 1934, the playback speed was 33 1/3 rpm and a single 12-inch record contained only 30 minutes of reading matter. In 1963 talking books were produced on 10-inch records at 16 2/3 rpm containing 1 1/2 hours. At the beginning of this year, 1966, some talking books were being produced at 8 1/3 rpm; at this speed a 10-inch record contains four hours of material.

The increase in the amount of material per record is due not only to the slower playback speeds but also to a companion development, the increase in the number of lines per inch, or grooves, cut on a disc. The early records were cut at 150 lines per inch, but records currently in use are cut at 420 lines per inch.



Miss Geraldine Lawhorn, who is deaf and blind, communicates by telephone with the tactile speech indicator being tested by the Foundation.



## Speakers at Hospital Institute



*Speakers at the opening day session of the institute held in May to study the employment of blind persons in hospitals were, left to right, Leon Lewis, chief, Branch of Occupational Analysis, U. S. Employment Service; Douglas MacFarland, chief, Services for the Blind, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration; Arthur L. Voorhees, AFB specialist in rehabilitation, and Edward Weimer, assistant administrator, Manpower for Health, American Hospital Association. Guidelines developed at the institute, which was conducted by AFB under a contract from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, will be published in the near future.*

## Foundation Supports Federal Legislation

H. R. 14050, a bill extending and improving the Library Services and Construction Act, was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on June 2, 1966. The bill adds a proposed Title IV to the Act to provide Federal financial aid for library service for the physically handicapped as well as for state institutional libraries, including libraries in schools for the physically handicapped. Regional distributing libraries in the present Books for the Blind program as well as agencies distributing talking book machines will be assisted under this new provision.

A related bill, H.R. 13783, would extend the Books for the Blind program administered by the Library of Congress to cover those who cannot read ordinary printed material visually and those who cannot handle conventional printed material because of another type of disability. This bill was favorably reported by the Committee on House Administration on June 2 and is awaiting action by the full House of Representatives. Both H.R. 13783 and H.R. 14050 are expected to be enacted into law before adjournment of the 89th Congress and will substantially improve library service to blind persons through provision of Federal funds to assist in distribution.

The Foundation's Washington representative, Irvin P. Schloss, testified in support of both bills on behalf of American Association of Instructors of the Blind,

American Association of Workers for the Blind and Blinded Veterans Association, as well as AFB.

The Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the Handicapped of the House Committee on Education and Labor began hearings on June 6 in connection with its study of programs for the handicapped and their administration. The Subcommittee, which is under the chairmanship of Rep. Hugh Carey (D., N.Y.), heard from various Federal agency witnesses on June 6, 8, 9, and 14 and began hearing from national organization representatives on June 15. Hearings in Washington are expected to continue well into the summer. In addition, site visits by members of the Subcommittee to observe programs in various parts of the country are expected.

AFB's Washington representative testified before the Subcommittee on June 20 on behalf of both the Foundation and AAWB. He covered unmet needs in services to blind persons of all ages, including the need for improved statistical information, research, special education and income maintenance programs.

## Summer Music Program For Visually Handicapped Youth

A four-week session of music courses for visually handicapped high school students is being sponsored this summer by the American Association of Instructors of the Blind and AFB. The program, the first of its type in this country, will be given as part of the regular Youth Music Clinic of Michigan State University at East Lansing, Michigan. The E. Matilda Ziegler Foundation is providing support for the courses through AFB.

The workshop will offer musically gifted, visually handicapped high school students a specialized program of instruction similar to that afforded normally sighted high school students during the past several years. Sessions will include group and individual classes, participation in musical ensembles, and attendance at outstanding musical programs. The participating students will have the opportunity of strengthening their musical abilities while enjoying an enriching fellowship with sighted students who have similar interests.

Approximately 40 visually handicapped students will attend the workshop. They will begin the program on July 24, one week earlier than the sighted students. This first week will be used for orientation to the campus and the dormitories in which they will live, and for preliminary music reading and dictation of materials to be used by performing groups.

The instructional staff is comprised of members of the music faculty of Michigan State University Youth Music Clinic and AAIB Music Workshop officers. The program directors are Jack Chard, instructor at the Michigan School for the Blind; R. E. Unkefer, associate professor of music at Michigan State University, and Mrs. Harriet Minor, chairman of the AAIB Music Workshop. J. Albert Asenjo, AFB specialist in rehabilitation, will represent the Foundation.



## New Aids and Appliances Catalogue

A new edition of the Aids and Appliances catalogue has just been published. The catalogue, available free both in print and braille, lists more than 300 items for use by blind people for sale at or below cost.

Among the items newly added to the catalogue are an audible compass, previously described in the *Newsletter*; a teflon-coated electric skillet with raised dial markings, and a variable frequency power supply. When attached to a tape recorder or phonograph, the variable frequency power supply permits a blind listener to set the playback speed at a rate of maximum comprehension and convenience.

A copy of the catalogue may be obtained by writing the Sales Department, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York 10011.

## Specialists Write Curriculum Guides for Multiply Handicapped Youth

A group of eight specialists in the field of special education are meeting at AFB headquarters during July to write a series of curriculum guides for multiply handicapped youth. The guides are designed for use in day schools and residential schools in teaching older adolescent visually handicapped students who are educable mentally retarded.

The curriculum guides are part of a broad effort by the Foundation to develop programs for the multiply handicapped child. A grant was made to AFB by the International Business Machines Corporation to help support the writing and publication of the guides.

The writers are:

CHESTER LOOMIS, *Coordinator*  
Supervisor, Department of Special Education  
Detroit Public Schools, Michigan

LAWRENCE BLAHA  
Principal Investigator, Mobility Projects  
California State College at Los Angeles

MISS BERNADETTE ALBER  
Evanston Township High School  
Evanston, Illinois

SISTER JEAN MARIE, O. P.  
Lavelle School for the Blind  
Bronx, New York

MISS WILMA KINNEY  
Department of Special Education  
Brentwood, New York

R. E. HARTMAN  
Phys. Ed. Dept., Arkansas School for the Blind  
Little Rock, Arkansas

MRS. INA KURZHALS  
Curriculum Director  
Utah School for the Blind

J. KIRK WALTER  
Connecticut Institute for the Blind  
Hartford, Connecticut

Previously, committees of experts in the education of mentally retarded children and in the education of the blind met at the Foundation. The recommendations of these committees are being used by the writers.

## AFB Staff Participating In London and Moscow Conferences

Dr. Milton D. Graham, director of the AFB Research Department, and Leslie L. Clark, director of the International Research Information Service, are participating in two international conferences being held in London and Moscow this summer.

Dr. Graham and Mr. Clark attended a conference on sensory devices for the blind at St. Dunstan's rehabilitation center in London, June 13-19. This conference was an outgrowth of the Mobility Research Conference which AFB co-sponsored in Rotterdam in August, 1964. Dr. Graham chaired a session concerning the evaluation of the sonic aid manufactured by Ultra Electronics Limited, and Mr. Clark delivered a paper on socio-cultural factors in mobility.

At the XVIIIth International Congress of Psychology in Moscow, August 4-12, Dr. Graham will present a paper on trends in psychosocial and technological research on blindness and severe visual impairment in the United States. At this conference, Mr. Clark will present a paper on advances in problem-oriented research in blind and deaf-blind communication with the tactile sense.

During June, July and August Dr. Graham and Mr. Clark are conferring with leading research experts in the field of visual impairment throughout Europe.

## Administrative Institute Held in San Francisco



*Board presidents and executives of voluntary and governmental agencies attended the AFB Institute on Administrative Practices in San Francisco in April. Above, some of the participants discuss problems of administration with Miss Gertrude Wilson, standing, the institute's leader.*



## Program Planning Director Surveys Conditions in Niger



Harold G. Roberts, director of the AFB Program Planning Department, left New York on June 6 for a two-month intensive survey of conditions of blind people in the Republic of Niger, West Africa. The services of Mr. Roberts have been engaged for this project by AFB's sister organization,

the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, which is undertaking the survey on a contract from the Agency for International Development of the U.S. State Department.

The Niger survey was initiated on an appeal from President Hamani Diori as the first step in the establishment of a basic program of services for the education and rehabilitation of blind children and adults which would be appropriate to the social, economic and cultural backgrounds of the people of that country.

Ways and means will be explored to determine the suitability of farm and craft centers for the adult blind, and the introduction of the education of selected blind children in the regular schools. Evaluation will be made of general training centers for possible use by blind people. The survey will also include a study of the incidence and major causes of blindness, family and community attitudes towards blindness, and the traditional religious response to begging by the blind.

## Annette B. Dinsmore Receives Anne Sullivan Centennial Award



Annette B. Dinsmore, AFB specialist in services to deaf-blind persons, was one of the recipients of the Anne Sullivan Centennial Awards made by the Industrial Home for the Blind at a commemoration banquet held on April 14, the 100th anniversary of Anne Sullivan's birth. Miss Dinsmore, above left, was presented the award by AFB executive director M. Robert Barnett.

## New Catalog Lists AFB Publications

A new catalog of all AFB publications, films, radio series, and posters has been printed and is available for free distribution. More than 100 books, monographs and pamphlets are described, in addition to some 20 films. Anyone wishing a copy should write to the Director of Publications, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York 10011.

## News Briefs

- The annual meeting of the National Committee for Research in Ophthalmology and Blindness was held in Chicago, Illinois, on June 26. AFB executive director M. Robert Barnett participated in the panel discussion and symposium which comprised the meeting. Mr. Barnett spoke on the changing roles and responsibilities of national agencies as reflected in the policies and programs of the Foundation.

- Approximately 100 blind women are spending two-week vacations this summer at "Rest Haven," a large home set aside for this purpose in several acres of park land at Monroe, New York.

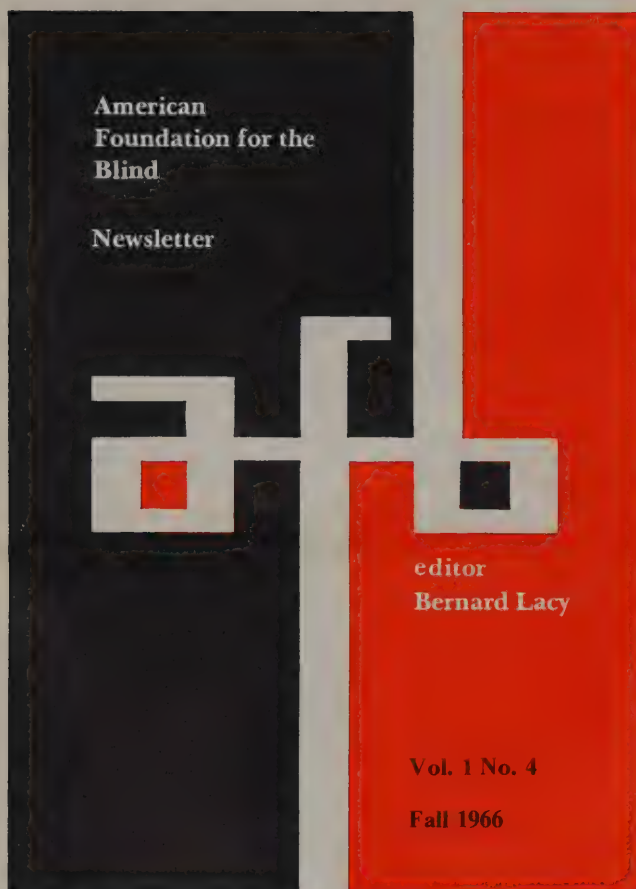
"Rest Haven" was originally established as a vacation center for blind women by the late M. C. Migel, the president of AFB from 1922 to 1945 and chairman of the board until 1957. For 15 years Mr. Migel personally conducted and financed the center. In 1944 he donated the property to the Foundation, which has since supported it and covered the expenses of guests each summer.

- Several members of the AFB staff attended the convention of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind in Salt Lake City, Utah, during the last week in June. Miss Pauline Moor, specialist in education, preschool services, chaired the section on casework and counseling methods of the preschool workshop. Miss Moor was also on the panel of the general session concerned with research on the multiply handicapped child.

Mrs. Ferne K. Root, director of program development, participated in the research symposium on listening, programmed instruction, technical devices. Mrs. Root, a member of the board of directors of AAIB, was re-elected to that position at the convention.

- Miss Marion Wurster, AFB regional consultant, participated in the regional conference held in Dallas, May 16-17, by the Division of Services for the Blind, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. The Division's state directors and assistant state directors from New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas attended the conference for extensive planning of future programs. Douglas MacFarland, chief of the VRA Division of Services for the Blind, and Doyle Best, VRA regional representative, chaired the meetings.





## Salary Survey Statistics Compiled

By Bureau of Labor Statistics

Salaries for professional and administrative occupations in work for the blind remain below those of comparable positions in other fields, according to a survey sponsored this year by the U.S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and AFB. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which conducted the survey and compiled the data collected from questionnaires, will publish a statistical report this fall.

The Foundation is currently analyzing these statistics and, under a grant from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, will publish interpretative documents during the first quarter of 1967. These documents will relate salaries to those of the previous studies of 1955 and 1961, to the rise in the cost of living, to salary changes in allied occupations, etc.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics received an excellent response from those to whom the survey questionnaire was mailed. Ninety-seven percent of organizations with workers in the 26 selected occupations returned usable questionnaires. A total of 619 organizations, half of which are local community school systems and half special agencies and schools for the blind, contributed information to the survey. Approximately 3700 persons are covered in the comprehensive data, 70 percent of all professional and administrative personnel engaged in services for the blind on a full-time basis.

Preliminary analysis by AFB staff shows that in the past five years average annual salaries in the specified professional and administrative occupations have increased 28 percent, compared to a 35 percent increase between 1955 and 1961. The 1955 and 1961 surveys revealed that many categories had lower average annual salaries than those in comparable positions outside the field of services for the blind, and the current survey shows that this continues to be true.

It is interesting to note that in a survey of teachers of the blind made a quarter of a century ago by the Foundation, Robert Irwin, then the AFB executive director, wrote: "The results of this study disclose the fact that teachers in residential schools for the blind have the same professional training as do teachers in public schools, but that their salaries are far below those paid to public school teachers." This remains so in the current survey; e.g., elementary school teachers in residential schools who received no maintenance had a median annual salary of \$6,030, while elementary school teachers who spend more than 50 percent of their time teaching blind children in public schools earned an average of \$7,890.

The statistical report, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, will be available free of charge to interested persons through the Personnel and Training Service, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011. Further information on the availability of the interpretative documents will be printed in later issues of the *Newsletter*.

## Training Institute for Supervisors Of Rehabilitation Teachers

AFB will conduct a six-day national institute on supervision for supervisors of rehabilitation teachers (otherwise known as home teachers) in New York City December 4-9. The institute has been made possible by a training grant from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration.

Dr. Hilda C.M. Arndt, professor and coordinator of field work, School of Social Welfare, Louisiana State University, and W. Neal Brown, associate professor, Graduate School of Social Work, Rutgers—The State University of New Jersey, will be instructors.

The need for more adequate training facilities in the rehabilitation teaching field was expressed in the 1961 Cosgrove Report issued by the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. There has been no previous organized training for supervisors in this field in the skills, techniques and philosophy of supervision. The institute was originally suggested to AFB by the Eastern Conference of Home Teachers. Members of this group and rehabilitation supervisors from other sections of the country gave advisory assistance in the planning of the institute.

Invitations to the institute have been sent out by the Foundation to persons who are engaged full time in the supervision of rehabilitation teachers.



## Writers of Curriculum Guides For Multiply Handicapped Youth



*Eight specialists in the field of special education met in July to prepare a series of curriculum guides for use in teaching older adolescent visually handicapped youth who are mentally retarded. Shown above at AFB headquarters are, from left clockwise, Chester Loomis, Detroit, Mich., Public Schools; Mrs. Ina Kurzahls, Utah School for the Blind; Miss Wilma Kinney, Department of Special Education, Brentwood, N.Y.; Sister Jean Marie, O.P., Lavelle School for the Blind; Lawrence Blaha, California State College at Los Angeles; Miss Bernadette Alber, Evanston Township High School, Illinois; and R.E. Hartman, Arkansas School for the Blind. J. Kirk Walter of the Connecticut Institute for the Blind, a member of the committee, was absent when the photograph was taken. Early next year AFB will publish the guides, with the assistance of a grant from International Business Machines Corporation.*

## 1966 Migel Medal Awards For Outstanding Service to the Blind

Dr. Edward J. Waterhouse, director of the Perkins School for the Blind, and Mrs. Jayne B. Spain, president of Alvey-Ferguson Operations, Cincinnati, Ohio, will be the 1966 recipients of the Migel Medal for Outstanding Service to the Blind. The medal, first presented in 1937 and named in honor of M. C. Migel, the Foundation's first president, is regarded as the highest honor in the United States in work for the blind.

The medal is awarded annually to two persons, one professionally active in work for the blind and the other a lay person. The presentation will be made on October 27 during Foundation Day, a yearly occasion which also includes the annual meetings of the board of trustees and AFB members.

Dr. Waterhouse, this year's professional recipient, has contributed significantly to the education of the

blind and deaf-blind in the United States. He joined the staff of the Perkins School as a teacher in 1933 and has served as the school's director since 1951. He is past chairman of the Legislative Committee of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind and past president of the Massachusetts Association for the Adult Blind. He is a director of the John Milton Society and the National Braille Press.

Dr. Waterhouse is also an active participant in international work for the blind. He is a member of the executive committee of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and chairman of the International Conference of Educators of Blind Youth.

Mrs. Spain, this year's lay recipient, has been a major influence in the hiring of physically handicapped workers, especially the blind and deaf-blind. As president of a company which manufactures conveying equipment, she has organized exhibits in which blind workers assemble complicated machinery at international trade fairs in Greece, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Algeria. Through the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, she has been instrumental in supplying specialized equipment to programs for blind persons in several foreign countries and in arranging fellowships for blind students to study in the United States.

Mrs. Spain was recently appointed by President Johnson as vice chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. She is also a member of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped of Ohio. She is past president of the Greater Cincinnati Hospital Council and the Convalescent Hospital for Children in Cincinnati.

## New Pamphlet Promotes Careers in Work for the Blind

A new pamphlet has been issued by the publications division of the AFB Information Department to promote careers in work for the blind among high school, college and university students. The pamphlet, entitled *For Your Consideration—Five Careers*, will be distributed through guidance counselors and teachers.

The five careers described in the pamphlet are social work, rehabilitation teaching, vocational rehabilitation counseling, orientation and mobility instruction, and the teaching of blind and visually handicapped children. General information is also included on growth opportunities and salary trends, as well as facts concerning blindness in the United States.

The pamphlet was prepared in cooperation with the AFB Personnel and Training Service, which acts as a national clearing house for information about jobs and personnel in the field of services for the blind.

Anyone wishing a copy of the new pamphlet may write to Publications Division, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011. Copies are available free in quantities up to 200; prices of quantities over 200 are available on request.



## **Administrative Institutes for Northeast And West Central Regions**

Institutes on administrative practices for agencies serving the blind will be conducted by the Foundation in the Northeast and West Central regions. These institutes, similar to that sponsored by AFB in the West Coast area this past spring, will give board presidents and executive directors of voluntary and governmental agencies the opportunity to consider such vital areas of agency administration as program planning, personnel practices, public relations, development of goals and board-staff relationships.

The planning committee for the institute in the Northeast region met on September 30 in the offices of the Foundation. The committee members are: Miss Virginia Cole, director of the Division of Services for the Blind, Vermont State Department of Social Welfare; Joseph Pike, executive director of the Albany Association of the Blind; C. Owen Pollard, director of the Division of Eye Care and Special Service, Maine State Department of Health and Welfare; Wesley D. Sprague, executive director of the New York Association for the Blind; and Mrs. Helen Worden, executive director of the Rhode Island Association for the Blind.

The committee decided at this meeting to hold the institute in Springfield, Massachusetts, in April. Preliminary plans were made concerning the program content and institute leaders.

The committee for the West Central institute met in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 20. The committee members are: Howard H. Hanson, director of the South Dakota State Service to the Blind and Visually Handicapped; Harry E. Hayes, director of the Division of Services for the Blind, Kansas State Department of Social Welfare; Mrs. Lucie D. Lade, executive director of Dallas Services for Blind Children; and Mrs. Geraldine Rougagnac, executive director of the Houston Lighthouse for the Blind. They set Oklahoma City, Oklahoma as the site of the institute, to be held in March, 1967.

## **Blind Students Participate Successfully In Summer Youth Music Program**

A group of visually handicapped high school students participated successfully in all aspects of the regular programs for sighted students at the Youth Music Clinic of Michigan State University this summer. The project, the first of its type in this country, was sponsored by the American Association of Instructors of the Blind and AFB, with support for the courses provided by the E. Matilda Ziegler Foundation.

The Michigan State University Youth Music Clinic has for many years offered a program for approximately 600 musically gifted high school students. No changes were made in the courses for the visually handicapped students except to provide them with a period of orientation to the campus before the beginning of the regular sessions and with braille copies of the music to be played.

Each student participated in a minimum of two group activities—orchestras, bands, choruses, etc.—in addition to private lessons and classes in music literature and music theory. For each group activity the students memorized twelve pieces from braille scores in a three-week period. Tape recorders were also tested to speed the memory process.

Jack Chard, music director of the Michigan School for the Blind, was a special staff member at the Music Clinic. "The visually handicapped students had to audition and meet the competition the same as sighted boys and girls," Mr. Chard said, "and they were rated strictly on their musical ability."

During the concluding week of the program, 300 students competed for solo recitals. Five blind students were in this group—four pianists and a flutist—and all five were selected for recital performances.

J. Albert Asenjo, an AFB program specialist in rehabilitation and a former professional musician, represented the Foundation at the Music Clinic. Mr. Asenjo reported that the music instructors and band and orchestra conductors were all impressed with the ability of the blind young people to participate at the same level as the sighted students. The hope was expressed by the instructors that the program could be continued and expanded in the future.

## **Television Spot Will Show Employment Opportunities**



*Kenneth Cross, a blind teacher of English and history at Cleveland Hill High School, Cheektowaga Township, N.Y., is shown with a class of sighted students in this "still" taken from the new AFB 60-second television spot. The spot, which will be distributed to television stations throughout the country, will show the wide variety of occupations that can be successfully filled by blind people. Scenes of blind persons at work in diverse jobs were taken from the 30-minute film on employment opportunities currently being produced by the Foundation.*



## NASA Space Exhibit for the Blind

### Opens in New York City

A tactile-audible exhibit for blind people which traces the history of aviation and the exploration of space opened a nationwide tour in New York City on October 4. The exhibit will be open to the blind public on a scheduled basis at the New York Association for the Blind until October 22 and at the Vocational Education and Extension Board gymnasium in Syosset, L.I., N.Y., October 28—November 13.

The exhibit, created by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is built in the shape of a star with five display areas between the points. When a person enters one of these areas, a recorded description of the material in that area is automatically turned on. A limited number of braille captions are also used in the exhibit.

Members of the staff of AFB served in an advisory capacity to NASA in planning the exhibit and tour. The Foundation is cooperating with the New York Association for the Blind, the Industrial Home for the Blind, the Associated Blind, the New York Institute for the Education of the Blind, the Jewish Guild for the Blind and the Lavelle School in the New York presentation.

The exhibit was originally tested at the Maryland School for the Blind and the Smithsonian Institute and was demonstrated at the national conventions of the American Association of Workers for the Blind and the American Association of Instructors of the Blind. It will be shown during the next two years in selected locations in the United States where there is a concentration of blind people and where arrangements can be made with agencies for local sponsorship. Further information concerning the exhibit may be obtained from Maurice A. Peter, NASA Headquarters, Code F.G.E., Washington, D.C. 20546.

## Register of Deaf-Blind Children

### Compiled for 1965-1966

The annual statistical report showing the numbers, distribution by age and state, educational placement and evaluations of children under 20 years of age with impaired vision and hearing has been compiled for 1965-66 by Elizabeth M. Wagner, the AFB program specialist in services for deaf-blind children.

This annual register is based on reports submitted by departments of education, health and welfare, state and local agencies for the blind, schools for the blind and schools for the deaf. Because the Foundation must depend on reports voluntarily submitted to it, it realizes that the register does not cover every child with impaired vision and hearing. However, it is as complete as possible, and each year AFB endeavors to secure the cooperation of all groups concerned in compiling it.

A total of 457 deaf-blind children were reported for

the past fiscal year. Of this number, 91 are in programs for the deaf-blind; 70 are in such other educational programs as nursery schools, schools for the deaf or schools for the blind, or public school classes; 240 are at home; and 56 are in institutions for the mentally retarded.

During the fiscal year, AFB brought eight children and their parents to the diagnostic evaluation service for children with a combined vision and hearing impairment at the Center for the Development of Blind Children, Syracuse University. These children ranged in age from 5 years to 14 years.

Recommendations were made, following the evaluations, that one of these children be placed in a program for the deaf-blind, six in other educational or treatment programs, and one in an institution for the mentally retarded.

Interested persons who wish a free copy of the complete statistical report may write to Services for the Deaf-Blind, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

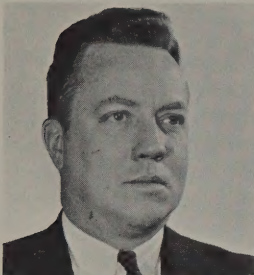
## International Conference of Social Workers



J.A. Carmichael, far left, executive director of the Society for Crippled Children and Adults of Manitoba, Canada, is greeted by, left to right, Eric T. Boulter, associate director of the American Foundation for Overseas Blind; Dr. Douglas C. MacFarland, chief, Division of Services to the Blind, U.S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration; Mrs. MacFarland; and AFB executive director M. Robert Barnett at a reception given by the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, and AFB for participants in the study group on the physically handicapped at the International Conference of Social Workers. Foundation staff members from the Program Planning and Research Departments participated in the conference, and AFB joined with its sister organization the American Foundation for Overseas Blind in an exhibit to provide information to the delegates from 74 countries who attended the conference in Washington, D.C., September 4-10.



## **Robert S. Bray Becomes Chairman of Service Advisory Committee**



Robert S. Bray, chief of the Division for the Blind, Library of Congress, has accepted the request of AFB president Jansen Noyes, Jr., to become chairman of the Foundation's Service Advisory Committee. Mr. Bray succeeds Dr. Norman M. Yoder, Commissioner, Office for the Blind, Pennsylvania State Department of Public Welfare, who asked to be relieved of the position because of the pressure of other duties.

The members of the Service Advisory Committee are outstanding specialists in various aspects of work for the blind. In the two years since the committee was formed they have met regularly with the AFB staff to provide an objective review of programs and to suggest new projects to meet unmet needs in this field. On September 26 this year a summary meeting of the committee was held. At that meeting a set of recommendations was adopted for submission to the board of trustees of the Foundation. The trustees will consider these recommendations at its annual meeting on October 27.

In addition to Mr. Bray, the committee members are:

Rev. Thomas J. Carroll

Executive Director, The Catholic Guild for All the Blind  
Newton, Massachusetts

Dr. Douglas C. MacFarland

Chief, Division of Services to the Blind,  
U.S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration  
Washington, D.C.

Peter J. Salmon

Administrative Vice-President, Industrial Home for the Blind  
Brooklyn, New York

Byron M. Smith

Executive Director, Minneapolis Society for the Blind  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Russell C. Williams

Chief, Blind Rehabilitation Section, U.S. Veterans  
Administration  
Washington, D.C.

J.M. Woolly

Superintendent, Arkansas School for the Blind  
Little Rock, Arkansas

H.A. Wood, former executive secretary of the North Carolina Commission for the Blind and a member of the original committee, resigned because of illness.

## **Director of Program Planning Returns from African Survey**

A high percentage of blindness, almost no services for blind people and a lack of local technical and financial resources were the primary findings of Harold G. Roberts' investigation of the conditions and needs of blind people in Niger. Mr. Roberts returned to his duties as director of the AFB Program Planning Department in August after a two-month stay in West Africa. His services were engaged for the Niger survey by AFB's sister organization, the American Foundation for Overseas Blind, which undertook the project for the Agency for International Development of the U.S. State Department.

Mr. Roberts reported that the rate of blindness in West Africa is extremely high, approximately 15-20 per 1000 people; the major causes are trachoma and river blindness. There are virtually no services for blind people there, and they are forced to live in poverty in segregated areas. Most villages have a section set aside for blind people, who even have their own blind "chief."

Many older blind persons are resigned to this way of life, with begging as the main source of support, according to Mr. Roberts. However, he found the blind youth eager for training which would allow them to work and share in the life of the community. The government also wishes to provide the necessary services, but it lacks the financial resources and technical personnel.

On the basis of his survey Mr. Roberts, with other members of the AFOB staff, is recommending specific projects in prevention, education and practical training. It is hoped that prototype programs can be set up which will serve as a model for similar countries. One such program—a rural training center in Cameroon—will be initiated by AFOB and the government of Cameroon in the near future. Final discussions concerning the center were held by government officials and Mr. Roberts during his stay in Africa, and the selection of a suitable site is now being made.

## **Specialist in Social Welfare Services To Be Added to Staff**

The Foundation's staff of program specialists will be expanded in the near future to include a specialist in social welfare services. AFB is now seeking an experienced worker in this field to fill the position, which will be part of the program development division in the Department of Program Planning.

Requirements for the position include a degree from an accredited graduate school of social work and seven years of professional experience in recognized social welfare agencies, preferably in those specializing in serving the blind. Interested applicants should contact the Director, Program Development Division, AFB, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. 10011



## Community Services Division Opens West Coast Regional Office

The community services division of the Program Planning Department has opened a regional office in San Francisco to serve local and state agencies in the West Coast area. The office, located in the Pacific Building, 821 Market Street, San Francisco, California, is the first step in the previously announced plans to decentralize the Foundation's field service program.



Benjamin Wolf has been assigned as regional consultant to the West Coast area and will be permanently based in San Francisco. From this office he will serve Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Guam. Mr. Wolf,

a member of the AFB staff since 1962, has previously served as regional consultant to the Middle Atlantic and Northeastern areas. Prior to joining the Foundation, he had extensive experience in community planning, research, budget analysis, fund raising and agency administration. He received a B.A. degree from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, and an M.S.W. degree from Western University, Cleveland, Ohio.

The community services division is the Foundation's prime link with local and state agencies. The division's regional consultants regularly visit agencies, schools and centers to assist the professional staff and to transmit both established and newly developed methods and techniques. The consultants arrange for and participate in seminars and conferences as well as aid in long-range planning for the improvement and expansion of programs.

The opening of field offices will provide the staff with closer identification with developments in the regions and will make them more accessible to all agencies. The establishment of similar offices in other regions is being studied, with one additional field office planned for this year.

## Personnel



A. MARIE MORRISON has been appointed a regional consultant in the community services division of the AFB Program Planning Department. Miss Morrison will work with state and local agencies in Region 1, the Northeastern area including Connecticut,

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Miss Morrison was a member of the staff of the Blind Association of Central Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, serving as director of social services and, most recently, acting director. She had previously been a caseworker with the Louisiana Department of Public Welfare. She received a bachelor's degree in social science from the University of Arkansas and a master of social work degree from Tulane University.

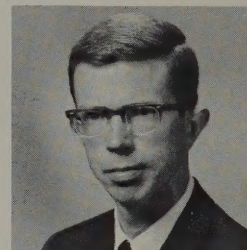


BILL L. UNDERWOOD has been appointed specialist in education in the program development division of the Program Planning Department. Mr. Underwood came to the Foundation from a position as State Supervisor of Special Education in the

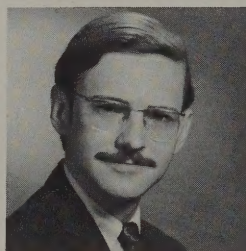
Arkansas State Department of Education. He previously served as a remedial teacher, working with slow learners and mentally retarded students, at the Arkansas School for the Blind. He has also taught in public schools in Oklahoma.

Mr. Underwood is a graduate of the Arkansas State Teachers College, where he received both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in special education.

FRANCIS P. NAUGHTON has joined AFB as an editorial specialist in the publications division of the Information Department. He will work on the *New Outlook for the Blind* as well as other periodicals and publications that are issued by AFB.



Mr. Naughton has been associated in an editorial capacity with the Wilson Library Bulletin and Scott Periodicals, Inc. He received a bachelor's degree from Hofstra University and an M.A. in English from Teachers College of Columbia University.



MICHAEL E. MONBECK, a member of the staff of AFB since 1962, has also been appointed an editorial specialist in the publications division. Mr. Monbeck's major responsibilities will be concerned with the two magazines *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book*

*Review*, which the Foundation publishes in cooperation with the Library of Congress.

Mr. Monbeck worked in the AFB Migel Memorial Library before joining the publications division. He attended Bowling Green State University, Ohio, and New York University.







